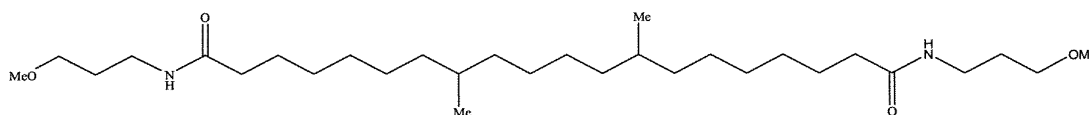


IN THE CLAIMS

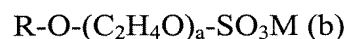
Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A hair shampoo composition comprising the following components (A) and (B):

(A): an amphipathic amide lipid of the formula



(B): from 5 to 30 wt. % of sulfate surfactants which are each represented by the following formula (b):



[[[]] wherein, R represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group having from 8 to 18 carbon atoms, a stands for 0 or a positive integer, and M represents an alkali metal, alkaline earth metal, ammonium, alkanolamine or basic amino group[[[]]]; are made of from 30 to 45 wt. % of the sulfate exhibiting a=0, from 17 to 27 wt. % of the sulfate exhibiting a=1, from 10 to 20 wt. % of the sulfate exhibiting a=2, and the balance of the sulfates exhibiting a=3 or greater; and contain the sulfates exhibiting a=0 to 2 in an amount of 70 wt. % or greater based on the total sulfates; and

(C) a cationic polymer,

wherein said shampoo composition has a pH of from 1 to 5 at 25°C when diluted to 20 times its weight with water.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (original) The hair shampoo composition of claim 1, wherein component (B) is a sulfate type surfactant which is made of from 33 to 43 wt. % of the sulfate exhibiting  $a=0$ , from 20 to 25 wt. % of the sulfate exhibiting  $a=1$ , from 13 to 18 wt. % of the sulfate exhibiting  $a=2$ , and the balance of the sulfates exhibiting  $a=3$  or greater; and the sulfates exhibiting  $a=0$  to 2 are incorporated in an amount of from 85 wt. % or greater based on all the sulfates.

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) The hair shampoo composition of claim 1, wherein the cationic polymer is selected from the group consisting of cationic cellulose derivatives and cationic guar gum derivatives, and mixtures thereof.

7. (canceled)

8. (withdrawn) A hair protecting method, which comprises the steps of applying a hair shampoo composition as claimed in claim 1 to the hair, shampooing with the composition, and then rinsing off the composition.